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Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 21, 2004.

Name of Registered Representative:

John C. Freeman  
John C. Freeman, Reg. No. 34,483

May 21, 2004  
Date of Signature

PATENT  
CASE NO. 9743/6

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application: )  
)  
)  
Ludwig Angerpointner )  
) Group Art Unit: unassigned  
Serial No.: 10/788,544 )  
) Examiner: unassigned  
Filed: February 27, 2004 )  
)  
For: SLIP RING UNIT WITH A )  
PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARD )

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with Applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in  
conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98, Applicant hereby submits the following references for  
consideration by the Examiner. Since all the references except the cited patent application were  
cited in pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/143,885 which is being relied on for an  
earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120, only a copy of the cited patent application is enclosed



Ifw

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date:

Date: May 21, 2004 Name: John C. Freeman Registration No. 34,483 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

BRINKS  
HOFER  
GILSON  
& LIONE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: Ludwig Angerpointner

Appln. No.: 10/788,544

Filed: February 27, 2004

For: SLIP RING UNIT WITH A PRINTED  
CIRCUIT BOARD

Attorney Docket No: 9743/6

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL

Sir:

Attached is/are:

- ☒ Transmittal Letter (in duplicate); Information Disclosure Statement; PTO 1449 along with one (1) cited reference.
- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard

Fee calculation:

- ☐ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ Small Entity.
- ☐ An extension fee in an amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for a \_\_\_\_\_-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).
- ☐ A petition or processing fee in an amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(\_\_\_\_\_).
- ☐ An additional filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

					Small Entity			Not a Small Entity	
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Add'l Fee	or	Rate	Add'l Fee
Total		Minus			x \$9=			x \$18=	
Indep.		Minus			x 43=			x \$86=	
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim					+\$145=			+\$290=	
					Total	\$		Total	\$

Fee payment:

- ☐ A check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to cover the above-identified fee(s) is enclosed.
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_. A copy of this Transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.
- ☐ Payment by credit card in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (Form PTO-2038 is attached).
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this paper (including any extension fee required to ensure that this paper is timely filed), or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

May 21, 2004  
Date

Respectfully submitted,

John C. Freeman  
John C. Freeman (Reg. No. 34,483)



FORM PTO 1449	SERIAL NO. 10/788,544	CASE NO. 9743/6
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	FILING DATE February 27, 2004	GROUP ART UNIT Unassigned
(use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT(S): Ludwig Angerpointner

#### REFERENCE DESIGNATION

#### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (If known)</small>	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A1	3,042,998	07/10/1962	Sweett et al.		
	A2	3,913,114	10/14/1975	Taguchi et al.		
	A3	4,594,524	06/10/1986	Sudo		
	A4	4,617,505	10/14/1986	Sausner et al.		
	A5	4,689,023	08/25/1987	Strong, III et al		
	A6	4,812,695	03/14/1989	Parshall		
	A7	4,818,911	04/04/1989	Taguchi et al.		
	A8	4,870,311	09/26/1989	Chase et al.		
	A9	5,124,608	06/23/1992	Lawrence et al.		
	A10	5,231,374	07/27/1993	Larsen et al.		
	A11	5,357,160	10/18/1994	Kaneda et al.		
	A12	5,793,133	08/11/1998	Shiraki et al.		
	A13	6,181,046 B1	01/30/2001	Daikoku et al.		
	A14	6,304,014 B1	10/16/2001	England et al.		
	A15	6,380,648 B1	04/30/2002	Hsu		
	A16	6,517,357 B1	02/11/2003	Athanasίου et al.		

#### U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (If known)</small>	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A17	US 2003/0103770 A1	06/05/2003	Arbuckle		

#### PENDING U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (If known)</small>	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A18	10/043,885	01/09/2002	Angerpointner		

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (If known)</small>	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES OR NO
X	A19	34 14 211 C2	05/31/1990	Germany		Yes
X	A20	G 94 01 715.8 U1	05/05/1994	Germany		No
X	A21	43 16 142 A1	11/17/1994	Germany		Yes

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

along with a completed copy of Form PTO-1449 pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.97-98.

**I. DISCLOSURE**

**A. U.S. Patents**

<b><u>Patent No.</u></b>	<b><u>Inventor</u></b>	<b><u>Issue Date</u></b>
3,042,998	Sweett et al.	07/10/62
3,913,114	Taguchi et al.	10/14/75
4,594,524	Sudo	06/10/86
4,617,505	Sausner et al.	10/14/86
4,689,023	Strong, III et al.	08/25/87
4,812,695	Parshall	03/14/89
4,818,911	Taguchi et al.	04/04/89
4,870,311	Chase et al.	09/26/89
5,124,608	Lawrence et al.	06/23/92
5,231,374	Larsen et al.	07/27/93
5,357,160	Kaneda et al.	10/18/94
5,793,133	Shiraki et al.	08/11/98
6,181,046 B1	Daikoku et al.	01/30/01
6,304,014 B1	England et al.	10/16/01
6,380,648 B1	Hsu	04/30/02
6,517,357 B1	Athanasίου et al.	02/11/03

**B. U.S. Patent Application Publications**

<u>Publication No.</u>	<u>Inventor</u>	<u>Publication Date</u>
US 2003/0103770 A1	Arbuckle	06/05/03

**C. Pending U.S. Patent Applications**

<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Inventor</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
10/043,885	Angerpointner	01/09/02

**D. Foreign Patents**

<u>Reference No.</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Pub. Date</u>
34 14 211 C2	Germany	05/31/90
G 94 01 715.8 U1	Germany	05/05/94
43 16 142 A1	Germany	11/17/94

**II. DISCUSSION**

**A. U.S. Patent No. 3,042,998**

The '998 patent was cited as a D-type and an A-type reference in a Search Report for corresponding German Patent Application No. 101 12 895.9. An A-type reference provides technical background and is not pertinent to patentability.

**B. U.S. Patent No. 4,870,311**

The '311 patent was cited as a D-type and an A-type reference in a Search Report for corresponding German Patent Application No. 101 12 895.9.

**C. U.S. Patent No. 5,231,374**

The '374 patent was cited as a D-type and an A-type reference in a Search Report for

corresponding German Patent Application No. 101 12 895.9.

**D. German Reference No. 34 14 211**

Based solely on the drawings and the English language Abstract filed in parent application 10/043,885, the '211 reference is pertinent because it appears to disclose a voltage supply that has a slider that is displaced along two longitudinal conductor paths. It is believed that U.S. Patent No. 4,617,505 corresponds to the '211 reference.

The '211 reference was cited as an Y-type reference in a Search Report for corresponding German Patent Application No. 101 12 895.9. A Y-type reference is pertinent when combined with another Y-type reference.

**E. German Reference No. 94 01 715.8**

Based solely on the drawings, the '715.8 reference is pertinent because it appears to disclose a camera system with annular electrical contacts.

The '715.8 reference was cited as an Y-type reference in a Search Report for corresponding German Patent Application No. 101 12 895.9.

**F. German Reference No. 43 16 142**

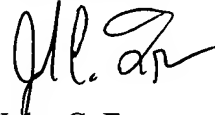
Based solely on the drawings and the English language Abstract filed in parent application 10/043,885, the '142 reference is pertinent because it appears to disclose a linear drive with one or more electrically conductive conductor tracks that have slit contacts. A connection preventing device prevents electrical contact between the slit contact and the conductive track.

The '142 reference was cited as an Y-type reference in a Search Report for corresponding German Patent Application No. 101 12 895.9.

### III. CONCLUSION

It is believed that none of these references, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest the invention claimed. However, Applicant wishes to make it clear that the disclosure of the above references is in no way an admission that they qualify as prior art. It is Applicant's desire, however, to have these references available in the record for both the Examiner and the public to see. Applicant therefore requests that the Examiner review the entire disclosure of each reference and make the above-listed references of record. Applicant also invites the Examiner to review the cited U.S. Patent Application and the enclosed associated Amendments and the art cited therein.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: May 21, 2004